THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 6471. *TUESDAY, Sept.* 20, 1842. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

AFTER the new Play of *Love's Sacrifice,* which was performed here last evening, the Opera of *Fra Diavolo* was played, but, owing to the lateness of the hour (it was past twelve before the third act commenced,) part of the music was omitted. Miss Rainforth and Miss Poole were delightful as *Zerlina* and *Lady Allcash;* their singing was first-rate. A Mr. Travers performed *Lorenzo* in a respectable manner. Messrs. Harrison, Giubilei and G, Horncastle sang the music of their parts with much taste and ability; the acting of the two latter was very good.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

LAST night this Theatre was crowded in every part by a fashionable audience to witness the production of a new three act Comedy, written by Mr. Bourcicault, and entitled *Alma Mater; or, a Cure for Coquettes;* it was received with immense laughter and applause throughout; on the fall of the curtain the author was called for, and made his bow from a private box. Mr. Webster announced the piece for every night. The following is an outline of the plot:—The Comedy opens at Oxford University, the *Alma Mater* of nearly all the *dramatis personæ.* Thither Count Pavé, (Brindal,) for whom the air of London is too keen—the bailiffs are after him—has come on a fortune-hunting expedition. At Oxford he meets with three gownsmen, Wildfire, (Holl,) Gradus, (Vining,) and Pliant, (Webster,) his quondam friends. At the famed Angel Inn, Sir Samuel Sarcasm, (Farren), is residing for a short time; here he has an interview with Dr. Dactyl, (Tilbury) one of the professors, who informs him that his nephew, Wildfire, is neglecting his studies, leading an extravagant life, and necessarily getting into debt. Of Gradus, another nephew, the learned Doctor has a better opinion. It is clear that Wildfire is Sir Samuel's favourite for he readily finds excuses for all his foibles. The young gentlemen above named, with Count Pavé at their head, ably assisted by Major Garrett O'Gorman, (Raymond), indulge in all manner of folly; they drink to excess, bet, spar, and so forth, as we have been told, is the customary mode of life at the University.

The real story of the Drama then begins. The Widow Venture, yet in her prime, it appears had played the coquette two-and-twenty years before with Sir Samual Sarcasm; he, as the executor of her late husband, had contrived to smuggle a clause into his will to the effect that the widow's legacy should be cut off, were she again to marry. Sir Samuel, unsuccessful in his first love, hates, or pretends to hate, the whole sex; the gay widow, however, gets him into her toils, and he in the end offers his hand to her. Lily Venture, her daughter, (Miss Charles), at the same time, is smitten with Wildfire, but has carried

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her coquetting a little too far; he, to be revenged, causes her to believe that he has made overtures to her mother, which are accepted. In the end a mutual explanation takes place, and she in her turn gives her affection to him.

Mrs. Glover's acting was the finest we have seen for some time. Mr. Farren's was equally good. Mr. Webster and Mr. Vining played their parts with great ability, and added much to the success of the piece. We did not like Mr. H. Holl's personation of *Wildfire*. The scenery was beautiful in the extreme, and the dresses and appointments reflect the greatest credit upon the taste and liberality of the lessee. *Locomotion*, and *The Irish Lion*, were the afterpieces,

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town:—

Monday, paid another visit to the THAMES TUNNEL, which is now completed, and is 1,200 feet in length. The entrance is now on the Middlesex side, close to the Tunnel Pier at Wapping; the entrance to Rotherhithe is closed, in order to finish a new Staircase; on the completion of which the Tunnel will be opened as a thoroughfare for foot Passengers. Generally go by one of the steam boats, either from Hungerford, Adelphi, Temple Bar, Blackfriars Brydge, Old Shades Pier, or London Bridge,—very convenient.

Tuesday, stroll to view the magnificent and numerous additions just added to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-street, Portman-square:—An Historical Group, in Magnificent Armour, the Prince and Princess Royal, in their splendid cot, the King of Prussia, Commissioner Lin and his Consort, the gorgeous Robes of George the Fourth designed by himself at a cost of 18,000*l.*, &c.—This exhibition is crowded daily with the *elite* of society.

Afterwards visit the *Chinese Collection*, St. George's Place, Hyde Park Corner. It consists of objects exclusively Chinese, comprising upwards of 50 figures as large as life, in their native costume, from the highest mandarin to the mechanic; and replete with articles illustrative of their manufactures, habits, and domestic arrangements.—This exhibition is well worthy of inspection.

Wednesday, dropped in at the LOWTHER BAZAAR—found my old friends the same attentive creatures in the new as they used to be in the old house, place much improved—splendid stock—intend leaving town for a few days—bought a portable dressing-case for 7s. 6d., everything in I can want—most abominably cheap;—went down to the *Magic Cave*,—rather warm, but nevertheless very much pleased, 18 views—all good—many first rate paintings—shown a Euterpeon shortly to be raffled for by4000 members—splendid instrument—advise my friends to take shares

Intend to call upon Messrs. COCKS & Co. Musicsellers to Her Majesty, 20, Princes-street, Hanover-square, to purchase Czerny's elegant music for the piano solo, i. e. Les Nobles Voyageurs, Fantasia composed in honour of her Majesty's Visit to Edinburgh, op. 707, 4s. 24 Easy Studies, founded on Scotch Airs, each 2s. 24 Easy Studies on Irish Airs, each study is composed for some special object. Rossini's Stabat Mater 10s. 6d. ditto as duets, two books, each 8s.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, pop into DUBOURG'S splended Exhibition of Wax Work, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, to see the grand *Centrifugal Railway*, 200 feet long, on which a carriage of nearly 200 lb., containing a lady or gentleman, descends an inclined plane, passing round a vertical circle of 40 feet, turning the head of the individual downwards and feet in the air; the carriage then decends the circle, rises a second inclined plane, and lands the individual safe, at the rate of 100 miles an hour.—A most extraordinary novelty.

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Bellini's Opera of

NORMA.

The Overture composed by C. Raper, Esq.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR, M. BENEDICT.

Chorusses under the Direction of Mr J. H. Tully.

Pollio ..... Mr W. HARRISON,

Flavius, Mr BINGE,

Oroveso ..... Mr GIUBILEI,

Norma ..... Miss ADELAIDE KEMBLE,

Adalgisa, Miss RAINFORTH,

Clotilda ..... Miss LANE,

Children, Miss A. PAYNE and Miss TURNER,

Gaulish Chiefs, Druids, Bards, &c. Druidesses, &c.

Previous to the Comedy, the Band will perform

AUBER'S OVERTURE to 'LES DIAMANS de la COURONNE.'

After which, (7th Time) a New Comedy, (by Douglas Jerrold) called

GERTRUDE'S CHERRIES!

OR, WATERLOO IN 1835,

Willoughby, Mr BARTLEY,

Vincent ..... Mr WALTER LACY,

Guibert, Mr DIDDEAR,

Jack Halcyon ..... Mr HARLEY,

Crossbone, Mr MEADOWS,

Alcibiades Blague ..... Mr A. WIGAN,

Carafon, Mr KERRIDGE,

Tripot.. Mr HEATH, Amboise.. Mr COLLETT,

François, Mr HUGHES.

Angelica ..... Miss COOPER,

Mrs Crossbone, Mrs HUMBY,

Gertrude ..... Mrs WALTER LACY.

To-morrow, Love's Sacrifice, and Fra Diavolo.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Eveuing, a NewZoological Dramatic Sketch, written for the express purpose of introducing the Extraordinary Performances of

Mr. CARTER,

The Wonderful Tamer of the Forest Monarch, and his beautiful and unique collection of Lions ! Tigers ! Panthers !

will be presented with New Scenery, &c. called The

LION KING;

Aben Ben Moussa, Mr Lawrence,
Kala el Beg, MrCooke, François St.Alme, MrBender,
Omir, (surnamed the Lion King) Mr CARTER,
Thomas Teazle, of Tooley Street.....Mr France,
Pierre, (Servant to St. Elme) Mr Rogers,
Zeluca..Miss Granby, Gulnare..Miss Ward,
Azla, Mrs France, Souffa, Miss Le Vite,

After which, the New Romantic Burletta, called The

LIGHTHOUSE;

Or, The Maiden's Dream.

David Grey, Mr William Howard,
Ralph, Mr Oxberry, Farmer Rush, Mr Griffith,
Sandie Armstrong, Mr J. T. Haines,
Janson..Mr Cooke, Bill Smith..Mr Blake,
Swayne, Mr Lawrence, Roberts, Mr Hall,
Giles....Mr Crowther, Fisherman..Mr Graham,
Fanny..Miss L. Melville,
Black Bess of the Cliff..... Miss Tyrrell,
Dame Margaret..Mrs France.

To conclude with, a Musical Burletta, by PIERCE EGAN, entitled

LIFE IN DUBLIN

Corinthian Tom ..... Mr WILLIAM HOWARD,
Jerry Hawthorn, Mr HAINES,
Bob Logic .... Mr HOLLINGSWORTH.
Jemmy Green, Mr OXBERRY,
JollyJack,MrLawrence, PaddyMalowney,MrCooke,
Sporting Man, Mr France, Lexicon, MrWilliam,
Mrs Green, Miss L. MELVILLE,
Kate Brilliant ..... Miss PRESSCOTT WARDE,
Betsy Tasteful, Miss R. ISAACS,
Peggy..... Mrs GRANBY,

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